

Sheriff Gary Del Re



Undersheriff Gary Stryker

PRESS RELEASE

Lake County Sheriff's Office • 25 S. Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue • Waukegan, Illinois 60085

For Immediate Release

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SHERIFF ANNOUNCES ARREST IN CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CASE

WAUKEGAN, IL. – Lake County Sheriff Gary Del Re today announced the September 30, 2003 arrest of a 30 year old Romeoville man with one count of Dissemination of Child Pornography, a Class 1 Felony.

Arrested was Chad E. Arnold of 1953 Tuscany Lane in Romeoville, IL.

Investigators were first drawn to Arnold approximately two weeks ago after receiving pictures from him in a computer file chat room. Investigators received pictures of young unclothed females in various posed positions.

Through the use of court subpoenas, investigators were able to identify Arnold through his computer Internet Provider (IP) address.

After identifying Arnold, investigators secured a search warrant for his address. On September 30, 2003 at 3:00 PM, members of the Sheriff's Office, assisted by members of the Romeoville Police Department, executed the warrant at Arnold's residence, taking Arnold into custody at that time. Sheriff's Office Investigators seized a computer, printer, scanner and digital camera from Arnold's residence. In addition, four handguns and three rifles were seized from the residence by the Romeoville Police Department.

During questioning, Arnold admitted at having approximately 47,000 pornographic pictures downloaded on his computer. It is further estimated that approximately half of those pictures depict female juveniles.

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Arnold told investigators he has been living in Romeoville since April 2003. Prior to that, he resided in Indiana where he was employed as a full time sixth grade school teacher.

Investigators point out that further charges against Arnold are possible, pending the results of forensic testing on Arnold's computer.

Arnold is currently being housed in the Lake County Correctional Facility, and will appear in court for a bond hearing later today.